Docket No.: 57454-997 **PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Customer Number: 20277 In re Application of

Confirmation Number: Kouichi OKUGAMI, et al.

Serial No.: Group Art Unit:

Examiner: Unknown Filed: February 27, 2004

DIFFERENTIAL SUPPORT STRUCTURE, DIFFERENTIAL'S COMPONENT, For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING DIFFERENTIAL SUPPORT STRUCTURE, AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING DIFFERENTIAL'S COMPONENT

CLAIM OF PRIORITY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231 Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 120, Applicants hereby claims the priority of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/714,596, filed November 18, 2003, of which this application is a Continuation-In-Part, which claims the benefit of the priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 of:

> Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-053150, filed February 28, 2003 Japanese Patent Application No. 2004-025456, filed February 2, 2004

The certified copy of Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-053150 was filed November 18, 2003 with the patent application (SN: 10/714,596). A Certified Copy of Japanese Patent Application No. 2004-025456 will be filed in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 27, 2004